

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04551 271419Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-10 IO-14  
EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 MC-02 AID-05 IGA-02 /105 W  
-----096632 271427Z /50

O 271348Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4996  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 4551

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, PBOR, SO, ET, US

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN REACTION TO US DECISION ON ARMS ASSISTANCE  
TO SOMALIA

1. ETHIOPIAN MIDDAY AMHARIC RADIO NEWS JULY 27 CARRIED  
REPORT THAT STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HAD ANNOUNCED US  
AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE ARMS TO SOMALIA. ACCORDING TO ETHIOPIAN  
COMMENTATOR, DECISION TO MAKE ARMS AVAILABLE WAS MADE  
IMMEDIATELY AFTER EXPULSION OF USMAAG AND OTHER MILITARY  
PERSONNEL FROM ETHIOPIA IN APRIL 1977. SAUDI ARABIA WAS  
ALSO IDENTIFIED AS GIVING FINANCIAL AND OTHER MILITARY  
ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA, WHEREAS EGYPT AND SUDAN WERE  
EXERTING PRESSURE ON SOMALIA TO ASK ITS SOVIET ADVISERS TO  
LEAVE COUNTRY, AS SUDAN HAD ITSELF RECENTLY DONE.

2. DURING SUBSEQUENT RADIO EDITORIAL, COMMENTATOR CLAIMED  
THAT, SINCE M-16 RIFLES WERE AMONG WEAPONS CAPTURED DURING  
RECENT FIGHTING IN OGADEN, IT APPEARED OBVIOUS THAT US  
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ANNOUNCEMENT SIMPLY CONFIRMED POLICY WHICH WAS ALREADY BEING  
IMPLEMENTED, AND THAT WEAPONS WERE ALREADY ARRIVING IN  
SOMALIA AND BEING USED AGAINST ETHIOPIAN FORCES. HE COMMENTED  
SARCASTICALLY THAT, WHEREAS TRANSFER OF ARMS BY US NORMALLY  
INVOLVED LENGTHY BUREAUCRATIC PROCESS, IT WAS NOT SURPRISING  
THAT PRESIDENT HAD MOVED RAPIDLY IN THIS INSTANCE. HAVING LOST  
HIS BASE IN HORN OF AFRICA FOR WORKING TO UNDO ETHIOPIAN

REVOLUTION AS RESULT OF EXPULSION OF ALL US MILITARY PERSONNEL  
PRESIDENT HAD QUICKLY DECIDED TO CHANGE HIS TACTICS AND  
HENCEFORTH WORK INDIRECTLY THROUGH IMPERIALIST STOOGES, SUCH  
AS SIAD BARREE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ADDIS04551  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1740665  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009